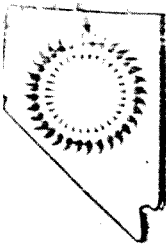


29-Un3G29C

## 4:2-11 NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY



Nevada State Library

FOR NOVEMBER 1985

FEB 3 1986

Office of the  
State ClimatologistVol. 2, Number 11  
December 1985

Documents Section

Office:  
226 Mackay Science  
(702) 784-6921  
(702) 784-1723Mail:  
John W. James  
State Climatologist  
Dept. of Geography  
University of Nevada Reno  
Reno, NV 89557SYNOPSIS

November 1985 was one of the coldest 11th months on record over most of Nevada, with average temperatures from 4-9 degrees below normal. Only a small area in the southern part of the State was spared the extreme cold. It was also the snowiest November of record at many locations in the Northwestern and Northeastern regions of the Silver State, and one of the wettest at several measurement points scattered throughout Nevada. Except for small areas in the Far West and the South, which had below normal amounts, most of the State had between 100 and 250% of normal precipitation, with over 300% in the Humboldt River Valley.

TEMPERATURE

Except for a small portion of Southern Nevada it was one of the coldest Novembers on record in the State. A partial listing of reporting points that registered record or near record low average temperatures illustrates the widespread nature of the cold.

<u>Northwest</u>	Nov. '85 <u>Average</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Previous Lowest Average</u>	<u>Record Began</u>
Denio	32.3	-6.6	2	31.7 1952	1951
Minden	33.6	-5.8	1	34.9 1952	1906
Orovada	30.2	-8.9	1	33.3 1957	1911
Virginia City	35.0	-6.5	1	35.8 1972	1951
Winnemucca	28.0	-9.7	1	28.2 1880	1870
<u>Northeast</u>					
Ely	27.5	-6.4	2	26.9 1952	1938
<u>Central</u>					
Tonopah	33.8	-6.3	3	33.0 1946 33.1 1947	1902

### Southern

Beatty	43.6	-6.5	1	44.9	1946	1918
Searchlight	46.5	-6.2	1	47.8	1964	1913

There have been colder extreme minimums recorded in Nevada during earlier Novembers, with only a few locations reaching the lowest ever for the month. Some outstanding examples are: Ely, with -15 on the 19th, tying the record set in November 1964, Virginia City, with a +9 degrees on the 13th, breaking the old record of 12 degrees set in 1954, Denio, recording -3 degrees on the 26th, only one degree shy of the -4 in 1978, Reno, +4 on the 14th, just short of the +1 in 1958, and Winnemucca, -8 on the 12th, only one degree warmer than the -9 degrees recorded 105 years ago in 1880. Preliminary data indicates that the coldest reporting point in Nevada during November was Wildhorse Reservoir in Northern Elko County, where -17 degrees was registered on the 25th. At the other end of the State, Laughlin recorded the State's high of 89 degrees on the 3rd. However this figure was unusually low for the month as temperatures averaged from 3-6 degrees below normal in the area.

With such a cold month, heating requirements were far above normal, ranging from over 1000 heating degree day units in parts of Northern Nevada, to less than 300 along the Colorado River.

### PRECIPITATION

All but small portions of the Far West and Southern part of Nevada had a wet November, with the Lower Humboldt River Valley receiving over 3 times the normal amount. In fact, it was the wettest November since records began at Lovelock 90 years ago, with 1.79", breaking the old record of 1.77" recorded in 1950.

The wettest portion of Nevada was the mountainous area around the Lake Tahoe Basin in the extreme western portion of the State, where two Sierra Nevada automatic reporting measurement sites near the 8500 foot level recorded between 10 and 11" of precipitation, and several others had between 5 and 7". At regular reporting locations, Incline was the wettest with 4.89" and 47.5" of snowfall, while Daggett Pass had 4.01", Mt. Rose Ski Area, 3.60", and Glenbrook, 3.21". In the Northeast, Wildhorse Reservoir had 4.38" and 29.0" of Snowfall.

Several locations had the snowiest November on record, including Denio with 27.0", Oroville 18.0", Reno, 16.5", Winnemucca, 19.5", and Ely, 17.5". At Reno, most of the month's fall occurred in one 24 hour period on the 9th-10th, when 15.5" fell at the Airport, and up to 21.0" in the suburbs, reducing mobility to a near standstill for a short time. The old record November 24 hour snowfall in Reno was 6.5" in 1951!

On the dry end of the scale, Yerington had only 55% of the normal November precipitation, and Minden 64%, with .25" and .52", respectively. Other dry areas were Hawthorne and Dyer 4 SE, with 83% of normal, or .35" and .39" respectively, and Las Vegas .37", or 86% of Normal.

## SUSHINE AND WIND

Sushine hours were below normal throughout Nevada during November, especially in the northwestern third of the State, where Winnemucca had only 44% of the average 59%, and Reno recorded only 59% of a normal 71%. In the South, Las Vegas also had below normal sunshine with only 73% vs. an average of 80%. Desert Rock had 63%. In the east, Ely was close to the normal of 67%, with 66%.

It was windier than normal during November in all but the eastern portion of the State, with the highest reported wind gust of 61 mph on top of 9700 foot Slide Mtn. near Reno. Las Vegas also had a 51 mph reading on the 9th.

We wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season.

John W. James  
State Climatologist for Nevada

NOVEMBER 1985

PRELIMINARY NEVADA CLIMATE DATA

LOCATION	ELEV	MAX	MIN	MEAN	DEPART	HIGH	LOW	HEATING		PRECIP	DEPART	GR. 24HR	SNOW FALL
								DEGREE DAYS	Base=65°				
Northwest													
Carson City	4650'	47.9	25.1	36.5	-4.2	3rd 71	16th* 20	871	+142	.94	- .11	28th .37	---
Daggett Pass	7380	40.6	24.8	32.7	-	2nd 70	11th 9	-	-	4.01	-	9th 1.83	---
Denio	4158	43.7	21.0	32.3	-6.6	3rd 72	26th -3	-	-	1.31	+ .34	28th .34	27"
Fallon Exp. Sta.	3965	47.6	22.9	35.3	-5.4	7th 68	20th* 10	891	+162	1.11	+ .75	10th .39	5"
Fallon NAS	3935	49.0	26.0	38.7	-	3rd 74	14th 14	-	-	.88	-	10th 45	---
Gerlach	3800	39.3	18.5	57.8	-	3rd 67	14th -2	-	-	4.15	-	24th 2.05	---
Glenbrook	6530	42.8	27.1	34.5	-4.7	3rd 63	18th* 10	-	-	3.20	+1.32	10th 1.54	24"
Incline	6525	40.4	25.0	32.7	-	3rd 60	13th 10	969	-	4.89	-	10th 2.04	47.5"
Lahontan	4150	-	-	-	-	4th 71	13th 16	-	-	.82	+ .38	11th .28	6"
Lovelock	3957	44.0	22.7	33.3	-5.2	3rd 67	20th 10	947	+152	1.79	+1.34	-	---
Minden AP	4709	50.2	16.9	33.6	-5.8	4th 73	13th -2	943	+175	.52	- .29	11th .42	---
Orovada	4310	41.6	18.7	30.2	-8.9	3rd 63	11th -2	-	-	2.55	+1.49	24th .85	18"

## NOVEMBER 1985 CONTINUED

## HEATING

LOCATION	ELEV	MAX	MIN	MEAN	DEPART	HIGH	LOW	DEGREE		PRECIP	DEPART	GR. 24 HR	SNOW FALL
								DAYS	Base=65°				
Reno WSFO AP	4405	46.6	23.0	34.8	-4.9	3rd 73	14th 4	896	+137	1.23	+63	10th .82	16.5"
Reno UNR	4550	46.6	27.5	37.1	-	3rd 70	14th 9	-	-	1.67	-	10th 1.05	-
Virginia City	6340	42.4	27.6	35.0	-6.5	4th 63	13th 9	902	+203	2.96	+2.04	29th 1.00	22"
Wabuska SSE	4300	-	-	-	-	4th 70	19th 7	-	-	.48	-	11th .32	-
Wadsworth	4200	-	-	-	-	4th 69	19th -1	-	-	1.17	-	10th .44	-
Winnemucca	4295	41.8	14.2	28.0	-9.7	3rd 68	12th -8	-	-	2.51	+1.76	25th .95	19.5"
Yerington	4375	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.25	-.20	-	-
Northeast Battle Mt. AP	4340	44.0	19.2	31.6	-5.6	3rd 71	22nd -4	1,012	+178	.79	+22	-	-
Elko	5075	41.6	18.5	30.1	-5.2	3rd 75	22nd -4	1,042	+151	2.14	+1.31	25th .63	17"
Ely	6260	42.6	12.3	27.5	-6.4	3rd 69	19th -15	1,118	+185	1.55	+95	11th 1.01	17.5"
Mtn. City	5641	38.9	17.8	28.3	-3.7	3rd 69	26th -5	-	-	1.59	+31	24th .70	-
Wildhorse Res.	5641	35.2	13.8	24.5	-	2nd* 63	25th -17	-	-	2.51	-	25th .53	29"

\*Latest of more than one occurrence

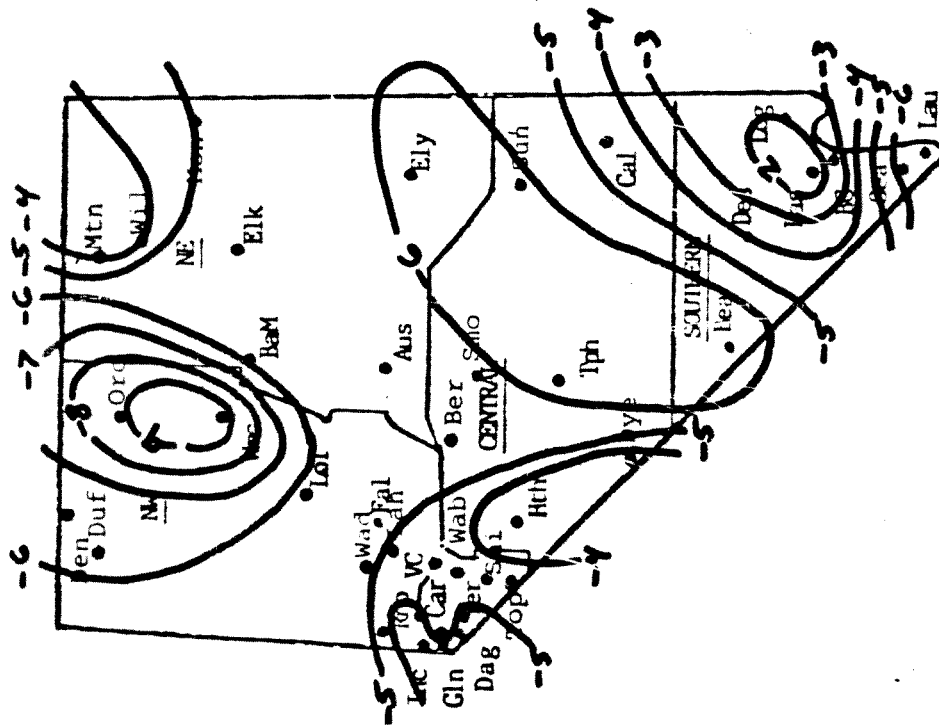
LOCATION	ELEV	MAX	MIN	MEAN	DEPART	HIGH	LOW	HEATING		PRECIP	DEPART	GR. 24 HR	SNOW FALL
								DEGREE DAYS	Base=65°				
Central													
Caliente	4400	49.8	26.3	38.0	-4.2	3rd 75	19th* 9	-	+72	1.52	+75	-	-
Dyer 4SE	4975	50.5	20.9	35.7	-3.7	3rd 73	13th 4	-	-	.39	-.08	29th .25	4"
Hawthorne	4215	51.9	28.7	40.3	-3.6	3rd 73	19th 14	747	+83	.35	-.07	-	-
Sunnyside	5300	46.7	21.0	33.9	-	3rd 72	15th -5	-	-	1.37	-	30th .51	11.5"
Tonopah AP	5425	44.0	23.6	33.8	-6.3	3rd 70	14th 5	939	+192	.59	+23	-	-
Southern Beatty	3550	55.7	31.5	43.6	-6.5	3rd 78	19th 19	636	+202	1.33	+98	11th .79	0
Boulder City	2525	62.8	43.5	53.1	-2.3	10th 78	20th* 30	360	+67	1.39	+75	12th .80	-
Desert Rock	3300	57.0	36.5	46.8	-4.0	3rd 77	20th 19	540	+118	1.21	-	11th .51	1"
Las Vegas	2160	62.6	40.8	51.7	-1.9	8th* 80	20th* 24	393	+47	.37	-.06	29th .22	0
Laughlin	550	71.6	44.6	58.1	-	3rd 89	12th 33	226	-	1.65	-	11th .50	0
Logandale	1320	66.2	39.0	52.6	-	5th 82	19th 21	372	-	.23	-	12th .18	0
Searchlight	3540	55.3	37.6	46.5	-6.2	3rd 75	19th 24	555	-	1.36	+78	29th .74	0

\*Latest of more than one occurrence

Note: Normals based on 1951-80 period

# DEPARTURE OF MEAN TEMPERATURE FROM NORMAL (F°)

NOVEMBER 1985



# PERCENTAGE OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION

NOVEMBER 1985

